IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 4-9 and 12-21.

1. (Original) A mixture of sulfuric esters of formula (1)

$$O = S (OR^1)_a$$

$$(OR^2)_b$$

$$(OR^3)_c$$
(1)

wherein

R¹ is an aliphatic radical having 1 to 30 carbon atoms,

R² is a radical of formula (2)

wherein

n is an integer from 0 to 30,

rn is an integer from 1 to 29,

X is an aliphatic radical having 4 to 24 carbon atoms, and

Y is H or SO₂(OM), where M represents hydrogen, alkali metal, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C₁-C₆-alkyl)ammonium, or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C₂-C₆-alkanol)ammonium ions,

R³ is a radical of formula (3)

$$---[CH2CH-O]p-Z$$

$$\downarrow_{R^4}$$
(3)

wherein

p is an integer from 4 to 35,

R4 is H, methyl, ethyl, phenyl, or mixtures of H and methyl, and

Z is H, methyl, ethyl, or SO₂(OM), where M represents hydrogen, alkali metal, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C₁-C₆-alkyl)ammonium, or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C₂-C₈-alkanol)ammonium ions, and

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a, b, and c are identical or different and are 0, 1, or 2, with the proviso that a+b+c is 2.

obtained by reacting sulfuryl chloride with a mixture of the alcohols R^1OH , R^2OH , and R^3OH , wherein R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 have the same meanings as for formula (1) except that Y is exclusively hydrogen and Z is hydrogen, methyl, or ethyl.

(Previously Presented) A mixture of sulfuric esters according to Claim

1 wherein

R¹ is an aliphatic radical having 4 to 30 carbon atoms,

R² is a radical of formula (2)

wherein

n is an integer from 0 to 10,

m is an integer from 1 to 10,

X is an aliphatic radical having 12 to 24 carbon atoms, and

Y is H or SO₂(OM), where M independently represents hydrogen, alkali metal, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C₁-C₆-alkyl)ammonium, or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C₂-C₈-alkanol)ammonium ions,

R³ is a radical of formula (3)

$$---[CH2CH-O]p-Z$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$R4$$
(3)

wherein

p is an integer from 4 to 35,

R4 is H or methyl, and

is H, methyl, ethyl, or SO₂(OM), where M independently represents hydrogen, alkali metal, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C₁-C₈-alkyl)-ammonium, or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C₂-C₆-alkanol)ammonium ions, and

a, b, and c are identical or different and are 0, 1, or 2, with the proviso that a+b+c is

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2.

3. (Original) A mixture of sulfuric esters according to Claim 1 wherein

R¹ is an aliphatic radical having 8 to 20 carbon atoms,

R² is a radical of formula (2)

wherein

n is an integer from 0 to 5,

m is an integer from 1 to 5,

X is an aliphatic radical having 16 to 22 carbon atoms, and

Y is H,

R³ is a radical of formula (3)

$$\longrightarrow [CH_2CH-O]_p-Z$$

$$\downarrow_{\mathbb{R}^4}$$
(3)

wherein

p is an integer from 9 to 22,

R¹ is H, and

Z is H, and

a, b, and c are identical or different and are 0, 1, or 2 with the proviso that a+b+c is 2.

4-9 (Canceled)

- 10. (Original) An organic or aqueous-organic formulation comprising 25 to 70% by weight of a mixture of sulfuric esters according to Claim 1.
- 11. (Original) An organic or aqueous-organic formulation according to Claim 10 wherein the organic component of the formulation comprises one or more organic solvents selected from the group consisting of mono-, di-, and oligoethylene

glycols, oligopropylene glycols, and oligoethylene/ propylene glycols, and mono- and diethers thereof.

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